

HONORING RICHARD L. COTTA

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard L. Cotta, a pillar of the California dairy industry, on the occasion of his retirement.

Mr. Cotta has spent virtually his entire career in all aspects of the dairy business; from dairy farming to dairy genetics and from dairy processing to dairy politics.

Mr. Cotta is a graduate, with honors, from California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, with a degree in dairy husbandry. From 1980 to 1984 he was the CEO of United Dairymen of California, a producer trade organization, until it merged to form Western United Dairymen.

From 1984 to 1993, Mr. Cotta served as the CEO of Western United Dairymen, the largest producer trade association in California.

Since 2007, Mr. Cotta has held the title of President and CEO of California Dairies, Inc. (CDI). His career at CDI began in 1993 when he started as General Manager at San Joaquin Valley Dairymen, a dairy processing and marketing cooperative. In 1999, San Joaquin Valley Dairymen merged with Danish Creamery and California Milk Producers to form CDI. At this time, Mr. Cotta was named Senior Vice President of Producer Affairs and Government Relations, and held this position until he was named CEO in 2007. Under his leadership, CDI profits have reached record levels. Today, CDI is California's largest dairy provider and the 2nd largest in the United States.

Previously, Mr. Cotta worked as a sire analyst for American Breeders Service, a classifier for the Holstein Association of America and a principal in Genetics, Inc. For several years he was a dairy consultant with many successful dairies on feeding, breeding and management systems.

Mr. Cotta has testified before the U.S. Congress and the California Legislature on behalf of the dairy industry. At the request of the Secretary of Agriculture, he has participated in world trade missions to open foreign markets to U.S. dairy products.

Mr. Cotta currently owns and operates Cotta Farms and is a partner in Terra Bella Farms, both almond farming operations. He sits on the following boards: U.C. Davis Deans Advisory Council; California State University Chancellors Ag Advisory Council; Sacred Heart School Foundation; and the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy. He is also on the Globalization Operating Committee for the U.S. Dairy Export Council.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Richard L. Cotta on his retirement from California Dairies, Inc.

DR. REBECCA WIEBE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dr. Rebecca Wiebe for her outstanding service to our community.

Rebecca is a skilled surgeon and businesswoman as well as a wife and passionate community member. Rebecca dreamed of a facility where cancer patients could receive all medical needs under one roof. Her vision recently became reality when the Red Rocks Cancer Center in Golden opened its doors. Rebecca had her hand in every piece of the cancer center, from raising money to purchasing real estate and even outlining logistics on how the cancer center should run. Rebecca's vision not only is a beacon of light for cancer patients in Jefferson County, but has attracted several medical practices and helped create jobs in Golden.

Rebecca maintains a successful practice as a general surgeon. She is confident, compassionate and highly skilled. Rebecca is not only a leader in Jefferson County, but her leadership extends to the surgical community in Colorado as well where she is the chair of the Surgical Service Line at the Exempla Lutheran Medical Center.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Rebecca Wiebe for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 12, 2011, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 913, "yes" on rollcall 914, "no" on rollcall 915, and "no" on rollcall 916.

KATHLEEN CURTIS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kathleen Curtis for her outstanding service to our community.

Kathleen is a woman that never rests. After losing her mother to cancer, Kathleen provides much sweat equity in fundraising for cancer treatment organizations by running marathons. She works a very busy daily schedule, but always has time to support the causes she cares for dearly.

Kathleen is a woman that never says no to a person in need. She and her husband have owned and worked for the Village Roaster for 28 years. Kathleen donates many products and services to nonprofits for special events, especially coffee.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kathleen Curtis for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE COPPELL HIGH SCHOOL COWGIRL VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize the Coppell High School Cowgirl volleyball team for winning the 2011 Texas state championship title.

The Cowgirls finished the season with a 42–8 record and the program's first ever state championship. Coppell High School competes in the University Interscholastic League Class 5A, the most competitive athletic class composed of the largest schools in Texas. The Cowgirls have appeared in the state tournament three times in their 29-year history. Their last appearance was 14 years ago.

Coppell had an exciting 2011 season, finishing second place in District 7–5A. With their second-place district standing, the Cowgirls went on to the bi-district game where they defeated Flower Mound High School with match scores of 22–25, 25–22, 25–12 and 25–19. Following the bi-district victory, the Cowgirls played Colleyville Heritage High School in the area championship. Coppell won the game with the match scores of 25–11, 25–9, 18–25 and 25–16.

In the regional tournament, the Cowgirls defeated the defending state champions, Hebron High School, in a dramatic five-game match. Coppell lost the first two matches, and in an amazing turnaround, the Cowgirls won the next three matches to advance to the regional tournament. The match scores for the Coppell-Hebron quarterfinal game were 22–25, 23–25, 28–26, 25–21 and 15–10.

In the regional semi-final game, Coppell swept Arlington High School with match scores of 25–23, 25–16 and 25–13. Prior to the Coppell-Arlington matchup, Arlington had been on a 17-match winning streak. Coppell continued their sweep by defeating Marcus High School in the regional championship in three matches. The Coppell-Marcus match scores were 22–20, 25–20 and 25–15.

The Cowgirls made it through the regional tournament to the state semi-finals, where they played San Antonio Johnson High School in a dramatic five-game match series. The Cowgirls took the win with the match scores 14–24, 25–16, 21–25, 25–20 and 15–10. In the Texas volleyball state finals, Coppell defeated McKinney Boyd High School to take the state championship title. The Coppell-McKinney Boyd match scores were 25–22, 25–19, 20–25 and 25–19.

I am extremely proud of the Coppell Cowgirl volleyball team. I would like to recognize each player on this state championship team: Megan Kennedy, Kristen Dickerson, Sarah Arnold, Erica Bohannon, Cassidy Pickrell, Kierra Hoist, Kylie Pickrell, Jordan Jones, Bear Bass, Chiaka Ogbogu, Lindsay Stivers, Mary-Kate Marshall and Kate Dicken. The team was guided by an exceptional coaching staff that included head coach Julie Green and assistant coaches Megan Geeslin, Megan Boyd and Robyn DeArmond. Lastly, the Cowgirls were taken special care of by their student trainers, Makenna Hares and Erin Gillen.